REMARKS

Claims 19-40 are presented for reconsideration.

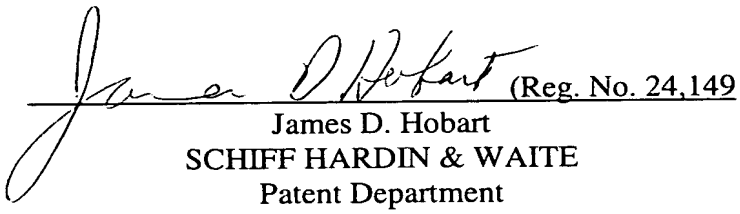
Applicants' attorneys wish to thank the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application for the courtesy of granting a telephone conference on August 8, 2002. During this conference, the Examiner was advised that we were filing a Supplemental Amendment to make changes in the claims which were filed in Amendment "A", which was received in the Patent Office on July 9, 2002 and we also discussed possible courses of action for getting this Supplemental Amendment to the Examiner for consideration when considering the earlier-filed Amendment "A". It is the undersigned attorney's understanding that the filing of this Supplemental Amendment by telefax was not recommended by the Examiner in charge of this application.

By this amendment, claims 19-22, 24-27, 29, 30, 33 and 36 have been amended to correct typographical errors noted in these claims and to further highlight the invention over the prior art. In addition, new claims 37-40 have been added. These changes are all shown in the marked-up version attached as an Appendix, with insertions being underlined and deletions being in brackets.

It is respectfully submitted that independent claim 19 and claim 34 are allowable over the references of record for the reasons set forth in Amendment "A", which was filed on July 9, 2002. Therefore, it is submitted that claims 19-40 are patentable over the prior art of record and are allowable.

In view of the amendments and explanations contained hereinabove and in Amendment "A", which was filed on July 9, 2002, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for immediate formal allowance and further reconsideration to that end is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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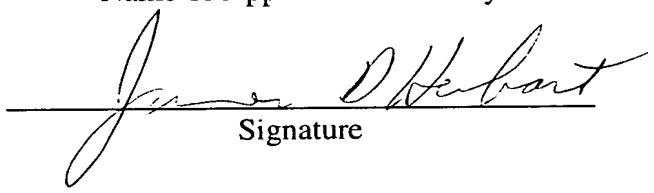
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on August 9, 2002.

James D. Hobart
Name of Applicants' Attorney



Signature

August 9, 2002
Date

APPENDIX

Version with markings to show changes made.

IN THE CLAIMS:

--19. (Amended) A system of light units, which have different light emission properties, each light unit comprising;

a support structure;

at least one hollow light guide with a cavity;

at least one lamp for directing light into the cavity;

one or more optical components having light directing properties for influencing the beam path of the light output from the lamp;

at least one of said optical components being a light permeable component having a medium with a first index of refraction and having a boundary surface with a medium of a second index of refraction different from the first, said light permeable component being part of said light output device and said boundary surface being provided with a light-refractive structure for deflecting light in at least one plane directed perpendicular to the light exit face, so that the light intensity distribution curve of the light emerging at the light exit face is influenced in this plane;

wherein at least one of said optical components of each light unit is mounted on said support structure and is dimensioned so that it can be used in any one of the light units of the system [and is dimensioned so that it can be used in any one of the light units of the system so that by replacing said component of the light unit with another of said components having different properties, said light unit will have different light emission properties].--

--20. (Amended) A system according to claim 19, wherein each light unit has at least [a cap reflector and an] <u>one</u> element [of a light output device] selected from <u>a cap reflector,</u> a light-refractive structure and an input reflector, <u>wherein</u> said [cap reflector and the] <u>at least one</u> element [are] <u>is a</u> prefabricated [components] <u>component</u> of a fixed dimension so that [they] <u>it</u> can be attached and installed in each support structure.--

--21. (Amended) A system according to claim 20, wherein the support structure of each light unit of the system has the same dimensions [in the support structure] for receiving the at least one [cap reflector and the] element [of the light output device].--

--22. (Amended) A system according to claim 19, which has a reflector selected from a total reflective cap reflector and a partially light-transmissive cap reflector, said reflector being interchangeable between the light units of the system so that the light unit can be changed between a direct lighting unit and a lighting unit with some indirect lighting.--

--24. (Amended) A system according to claim 19, wherein the light permeable component is selected from [planar] plate elements having different light refractive structures so that the [light-refractive] light emission properties of the light unit is changed by changing the [planar] plate elements.--

--25. (Amended) A system according to claim 24, wherein the refractive structure of the [planar] plate element essentially prevents a light emission above a limited angle relative to the perpendicular vis a vis light exit face in at least one plane perpendicular to the light exit surface so that the shielding of light emerging at the light exit face is produced in this plane.--

--26. (Amended) A system according to claim 24, wherein the [planar] plate elements have the same length and width.--

--27. (Amended) A system according to claim 19, which has a reflector selected from input reflectors having different reflecting properties and having dimensions so that the reflector can be interchangeably used in the light units of the system to change the light emission properties of the units.--

--29. (Amended) A system according to claim 19, wherein the support structure of a group of light units of the system has the same dimensions and the light emission properties [change by] are different according to the optical properties of at least one of said optical components being mounted on the support structure.--

--30. (Amended) A system according to claim 19, wherein, for a group of light units, the light output face by which light is coupled out from the hollow light guide, is

different for at least two different light units of said group, said light permeable component is a [planar] plate element and the support structure of [a group] each of said light units of [the system] said group has the same dimensions [and receives at least two planar elements with adjacent planar elements being spaced apart by a spacer] for receiving said plate element.--

--33. (Amended) A system according to claim 19, which has at least two light permeable components arranged in a stack with the light refractive structure arranged to [direct light] create a shielding effect at least in two directions perpendicular to each other.--

--36. (Amended) A method according to claim 34, wherein the step [14] of arranging will position at least two of the prefabricated components side by side on the specific area within the region between adjacent prefabricated components [and the step of fastening includes securing a spacer element in each region between the adjacent prefabricated components].--